The Usages of the U.S. World United Against Malaria commemorative issue of 1962

Synopsis

Acquiring covers: I go to 3-5 shows a year. 2013 included AmeriStamp, Philatelic Show, StampShow, and PIPEX. 2014 will include Garfield Perry, Philatelic Show, NAPEX, StampShow, AFDCS, and possibly ChicagoPex. I visit postal history dealers and look through bozes marked postage dues, auxiliary markings, 20th century, foreign destinations, new arrivals, …. I also usually spend 5-15 hours looking through dollar boxes at these shows looking for commercial usages. Usually I need to comb through hundreds of boxes looking for covers - many shows yielding no covers. EBay, Delcampe, BidStart, Jim Forte, stampcircuit, stampauctioncentral and many other sites and scanned through daily and notifications are being sent. I send emails to dealers on the ADSA website and also put in advertisements in a few stamp clubs like the UNPI, AFDCS and will setup others. Covers from the early 1960s are starting to show up more and more but the quality seems low: bad cancels, overpaid rates, philatelic usages, … Not the easiest to find these covers. John Hotchner has found some items at shows and sends them on t me also - collectors helping collectors - there are all kinds of collectors helping collectors "nets" out there - I look for about 5 other people when I look through boxes at shows.

Buying collections has yielded some nice finds. I have purchased over 20 intact malaria collections ranging from 1 binder to 20 binders (James Sauer and Ron Ward had 20 binders each as they both had collected for 50 years). I pull out the good stuff and sell/trade the duplicates and common stuff has been working but takes time, mostly money.

A little bit about me: I have been collecting malaria stamps for about 20 years. But if you add the 50+ years that James Sauer and Ron Ward collected before I bought their collections, this exhibit has 120 years of collecting time behind it. And the other 18+ exhibits I have purchased makes the total time for collecting for this exhibit about 200 years :-)

I also restarted the Malaria Philatelists International (MPI) in 2007 and have written about 75 articles. The club existed from 1979 to 1986 before it folded. The new online club now has 72 members which allows me to get lots of input on articles and covers for the census and other information.

The Censuses: I have been collecting data on usages for a census for the US malaria stamp on cover for 10 years. I finally published it in 2013 (and by the time it was published, I had purchased some of the better holdings of the commercial covers). There are 2 censuses; domestic and foreign destinations - both links are below. I have also posted on the VSC and other chat rooms looking for scans of covers and/or to purchase/trade/ The covers in the censuses are from the following:
Larry Fillion, 20 year collector
Ron Ward, 50+ year collector, first MPI (covers now mine),
James Sauer, 50+ year collector (covers now mine)
Kelly Horn, 20 year collector (covers now mine), he is still collecting WW2 malaria units.
Mike Birrer, 50 year collector, avid collecting
Alfred Pan, 10-15 year collector, avid collecting
And a few others with 1 cover.
A few scans of covers off EBay that were not worth buying. But I bought a few anyways.

The census of reported covers (domestic and foreign) has about 120 covers. Some covers which were sent through the mails after 1970 including 80s, 90s, 2000s are not included because they are collectors just using up old stamps. Therefore, the exhibit will consist of 1/4 of the reported covers. Of the 120+ census covers, over 100 are mine. I continue to 'convince' some collectors to sell me there covers by making 'offers they can't refuse'. Some day, I will try and get all of them!

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About some of the covers:
Some covers like the unique 3rd class mail piece sending a Christmas card in 1963 was an amazing find. It has stains on it but it is the only one reported and I have been searching EBay everyday. Maybe not many people sent Christmas cards with a malaria stamp, most would have used Christmas stamps. Finding covers paying a high rates with 8 malaria stamps out there have not been found yet, so many of the 'higher' rates have combos with the malaria stamp paying just a piece of the rate. I have found some interesting destinations and when there is only one of two to a specific place, the quality is what it is.

References:
Larry Fillion, Census of the U.S. 4¢ (Scott 1194) on Cover - Domestic Usages
http://www.malariastamps.com/mpi/malaria-stamps-club-census-us-scott-1194-usages-domestic.asp

Larry Fillion, Census of the U.S. 4¢ (Scott 1194) on Cover - Foreign Usages
http://www.malariastamps.com/mpi/malaria-stamps-club-census-us-scott-1194-usages-foreign.asp

Henry W. Beecher and Anthony S. Wawrukiewicz, U.S. Domestic Postal Rates, 1872-2011 - Third Edition

Henry W. Beecher and Anthony S. Wawrukiewicz, U.S. International Postal Rates, 1872-1986